

Old Eight-Square Stone School
Fairview, Knowlton Township
Warren County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
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Old Eight-Square Stone School
Fairview, ^{CEMETERY} Knowlton Township,
Warren County, New Jersey

Owner: Fairview Cemetery Association

Date of Erection: 1835

Architect:

Builder: George Flumerfelt

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: One

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - stone,
stuccoed

Interior walls - plaster
over stone

Octagonal brick chimney at
apex of roof

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

As far as is known, this is the only eight-square school building standing in New Jersey. It is almost on the border line of Hope and Knowlton Townships on the road to Delaware Station by way of Mt. Hermon. As near as can be ascertained, the school was built in 1835 on land owned by the Adams family. Amos Adams was a pioneer settler of the section and the owner of large tracts of land. The building stands next to the

private cemetery of the Adams family, adjoining that is also a public cemetery. It was erected by George Flumerfelt and \$100.00 was paid for the labor contract.

According to the caretaker, the school was still used thirty years ago, although other accounts say not within the last half century. The Cemetery Association now uses it as a tool house and as a chapel during inclement weather. In the interior all that remains are two desks facing the wall at window sill height. These were desks for the older students; plain benches without backs were used for seats. There was a wood burning stove in the center of the school. The small pupils sat on backless benches around the stove. The teachers' desk was opposite the door. As the building now stands, it contains four windows and a door. There is a difference of opinion as to whether there were windows on the other three sides, but it seems logical that there were seven windows and a door. The present roof is of slate, but the original roof was shingles. Several years ago the building was stuccoed when the walls began to crumble. According to former students, the school had a capacity not exceeding fifty, but that seems to be a large number considering its size.

Bibliography:

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Andrews, F. B. "Only One Light-Square School Still Stands in Northern New Jersey" Easton Express May 17, 1937

Walter C. Hall

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